

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action dated June 6, 2006, in which the Examiner entered a Restriction Requirement for original Claims 1-43. The Restriction Groups were set out as follows:

Group I. 1-12 drawn to a catalyst;

Group II. 13-25 & 30-31 drawn to a process for producing synthesis gas;

Group III. 26-29 and 32 drawn to a process for making synthesis gas;

Group IV. 33-43 drawn to a process of preparing a catalyst.

Election without Traverse

With this Response, Applicant elects to prosecute without traverse the claims of Group II (Claims 13-25 & 30-31). Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected inventions of Group I (Claims 1-12), Group III (Claims 26-29 & 32) and Group IV (Claims 33-43) in one or more divisional applications.

Status of the Claims

By this reply, Applicant canceled Claims 1-12, 27-29 & 31-43; amended Claim 30 to redirect such claim to Claim 13; and added new Claims 44-70 dependent ultimately from elected Claim 13.

As a result, Claims 13-25, 30 and 44-70 are currently pending.

New Claims

Applicant further added new Claims 44-70 to add embodiments to the elected invention to which Applicant is entitled. Such new claims are supported by the Application as filed and do not constitute new matter.

- Claim 44 is supported by at least paragraph [0032] on Page 10 of the specification as filed.
- Claims 45-47 are supported by at least paragraph [0015] on Page 5 of the specification as filed.
- Claims 48-49 are supported by at least originally filed Claim 7 and Table 1 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 50 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 6 and paragraph [0016] on Page 5 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 51 is supported by at least paragraph [0028] on Page 8 of the specification as filed.

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- Claim 52 is supported by at least the catalyst Examples A-H of the specification as filed.
- Claim 53 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 8.
- Claim 54 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 9.
- Claim 55 is supported by at least paragraph [0026] on Page 8 of the specification as filed.
- Claims 56-57 are supported by at least Figures 1-3 and paragraphs [0025]-[0027] on Page 8 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 58 is supported by at least paragraph [0035] on Page 11 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 59-60 are supported by at least paragraph [0017] on Page 5 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 61 is supported by at least Figure 3, catalyst Example D, and paragraph [0027] on Page 8 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 62 is supported by at least Figures 1-2, and paragraph [0028] on Page 8 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 63 is supported by at least paragraph [0032] on Page 10 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 64 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 11.
- Claim 65 is supported by at least paragraph [0007] on Page 2 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 66 is supported by at least paragraph [0002] on Page 1 and [0016] on Page 5 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 67-69 are supported by at least paragraph [0034] on Page 11 of the specification as filed.
- Claim 70 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 26 and paragraph [0014] on Page 5 and [0016] on Page 5 of the specification as filed.

All cited paragraph numbers originate from the specification as filed. No new matter was added by way of these new claims.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider these new claims as part of the elected invention, so that Group II will now cover Claims 13-25, 30 and 44-70.

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraphs [0001] and [0027] have been amended to correct typographical errors. The first line of Paragraph [0032] has been amended to add ‘rhenium’ to the list of preferred catalytic metals as it was clearly omitted in such list since ‘rhenium’ is listed in the list of more preferred catalytic metals in

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the same sentence. All cited paragraph numbers originate from the specification as filed. No new matter was added by way of amendment to these paragraphs of the specification.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that they have fully responded to the Office Action dated June 6, 2006.

Applicant further believes that no new matter was added by way of amendments to the specification, amendments to original claims, and addition of new claims.

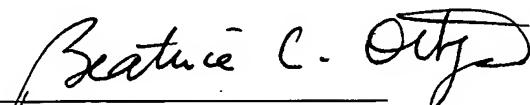
If resolution of any remaining issues pertaining to restriction groups and election may be facilitated by a telephone conference, or if the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be advantageous, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (281) 293-4751.

Applicant further believes that the cancellation of 28 claims (i.e., Claims 1-12, 27-29, 31-43) in this Response is sufficient to cover the addition of 27 new claims (i.e. Claims 44-70) so that no additional claim fee is required.

However, should any fees have been inadvertently omitted, or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, or in the event that an extension of time is necessary in order for this submission to be considered timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Deposit Account Number 16-1575 of ConocoPhillips Company, Houston, Texas and consider this a petition for any necessary extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 27, 2006



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